

THE INDEPENDENT

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ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 1921.

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\$1.50 A YEAR

PLAN BIG SPORTS EVENTS FOR COAST GUARD MEET

Navy Department Expected To Lend Spectacular Features To Entertainment of S. M. B. A. In This City June 28 and 29.

Elizabeth City will use the occasion of the annual meeting of the Surfmens' Mutual Benefit Association in this city on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 28 and 29, to stage a Marine Sports Day that promises to be one of the most spectacular and entertaining events ever staged in this city. A tentative program calls for a thrilling exhibition of the very newest and latest Coast Guard life saving apparatus as in actual use and races between U. S. Navy hydroplanes.

The Surfmens' Mutual Benefit Association is a benevolent protective organization composed entirely of members of the U. S. Coast Guard Service, formerly known as the U. S. Life Saving Service. It was organized in Elizabeth City more than 20 years ago and has had several notable annual conventions here, the last in 1919.

At the 1913 Convention here probably 5,000 visitors saw the marine sports. It is planned to bring twice that number of visitors here this year.

The Coast Guard is now an auxiliary of the Navy Department and comprises the country's greatest coast defense system as well as an ever watchful aid to distressed shipping in all seasons. The Coast Guard patrol every foot of the coast day and night. They watch for ships in distress at all times and during the late war they were often first to detect and sound a warning on the approach of enemy submarines.

One of the most important divisions of the Coast Guard service is the district lying between Cape Henry in Virginia and Cape Lookout in North Carolina. The offices of the Superintendent of this district are located in Elizabeth City, and all supplies for the Coast Guard stations in this district are handled from Elizabeth City. The activities of the Coast Guard offices and supply station at Elizabeth City contain a story within themselves.

Hundreds of men of the Coast Guard service make Elizabeth City their shopping center and they like to come to Elizabeth City. And Elizabeth City always gives these men and their families a royal welcome. They are a robust, sturdy, athletic, fearless lot.

Secretary Job of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce sees in the Surfmens' Convention an opportunity to make the most of our wonderful riverfront and demonstrate the fun we can have with it. Elizabeth City has never made the most of its aquatic sports possibilities.

The members of the Surfmens' Association are aquatic experts, capable of performing or participating in any aquatic feat. Men who can launch a life boat in Hatteras' surf and take men from a sinking ship in a sixty-mile-an-hour gale with seas running mountain high, know how to frolic in still waters as well.

The Navy Department will be urged to lend a hand in staging the entertainment of the June convention. The Navy has lots of airplanes, submarine chasers and other craft that are all a part of its coast patrol service and the convention at Elizabeth City will enable the Navy to better familiarize its Coast Guard with these powerful war-time Coast Guard auxiliaries. The Navy Department will also be expected to lend one of its marine bands to the city for the two days as a compliment to the service men. The Coast Guard has no hand of its own.

BODY OF HYDE COUNTY BOY ARRIVED THIS WEEK

Private Sadler, Killed in France in 1918, Will Be Buried at Fairfield To-Day.

The body of Thomas Milton Sadler, killed in the famous drive near Bellecourt, France, in September, 1918, arrived in Elizabeth City Saturday and was taken to his old home at Fairfield, Hyde County, Wednesday night. The remains will be interred with military ceremonies at Fairfield to-day.

The dead soldier was a private in the 120th Infantry of the 30th Division. He was wounded by a machine gun bullet. While being lifted from the trenches to be carried back to the lines for medical aid, a bursting shrapnel inflicted other wounds upon him from which he died in a few hours. He has several relatives in this city.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE DISMAL SWAMP CANAL

A public hearing will be held in the Council Chamber, 3rd floor, Armory building, City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, Va. at 10 a. m., May 16, 1921, in the matter of the investigation of the Dismal Swamp Canal, with reference to its acquisition by the United States. All interested parties are invited to attend.

WANTED—To purchase good fresh milk cow or will exchange good Jersey for fresh cow. C. F. WRIGHT, 305 W. Burgess St., City.

STRONG CAST IN BOHEMIAN GIRL

Frank Hufty Has Used Good Judgement in Selection of Principals For Big Event.

"Like the work of professionals" is the verdict of local critics who have heard late rehearsals of The Bohemian Girl by the Elizabeth City Choral Society. This popular opera is to be presented by local talent at the Alkrama Theatre on the evening of Tuesday, May 10. It is the most pretentious musical event ever undertaken in this section of the state. There will be 125 people in cast and chorus; a special orchestra of 16 pieces will be imported for the occasion; Miller, the Philadelphia theatrical costumer supplies the costumes. The production is under the direction of Frank R. Hufty, assisted by Mrs. Ada Burfoot Lester, pianist.

Hufty has selected his singers fitting to the roles they play. Mrs. J. E. Greenleaf plays the part Arline; Harold C. Foreman is Thaddeus; Winfield A. Worth is Count Arneheim; H. A. Brownley is Devilshoof, Chief of the Gypsies; Mrs. A. R. Nicholson, Queen of the Gypsies. And there are L. E. Skinner as Florestine; W. C. Sawyer, captain of the guard; Wm. Jackson, officer of the guard; Mrs. L. E. Skinner, Buda; and little Miss Carolyn Kramer as Arline, the child.

The Bohemian Girl, an opera in three acts, was first produced at the famous Drury Lane Theatre in London in 1843 and in a few years was translated into almost every language in Europe. It has been repeated year after year in London, in Paris, in Hamburg, in Vienna and in America.

The leading characters in the opera are Arline, daughter of Count Arneheim, soprano; Thaddeus, a Polish exile, tenor; a Gypsy Queen, contralto; Devilshoof, a Gypsy leader, bass; Count Arneheim, governor of Presberg, baritone; Florestine, nephew of the count, tenor. There are scores of retainers, hunters, gypsies, soldiers, etc.

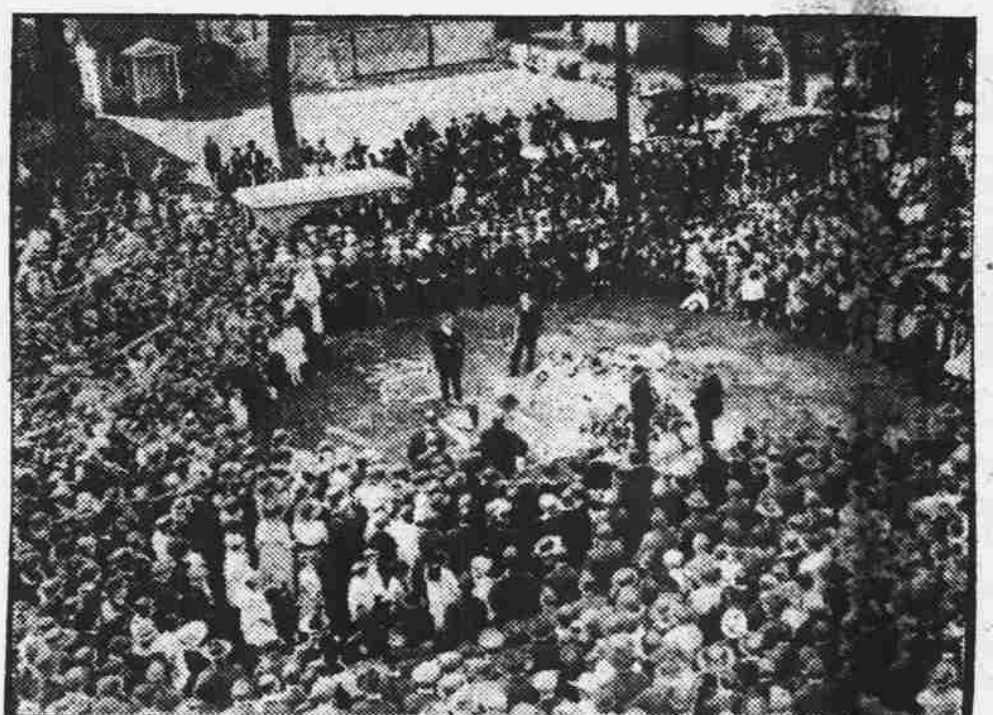
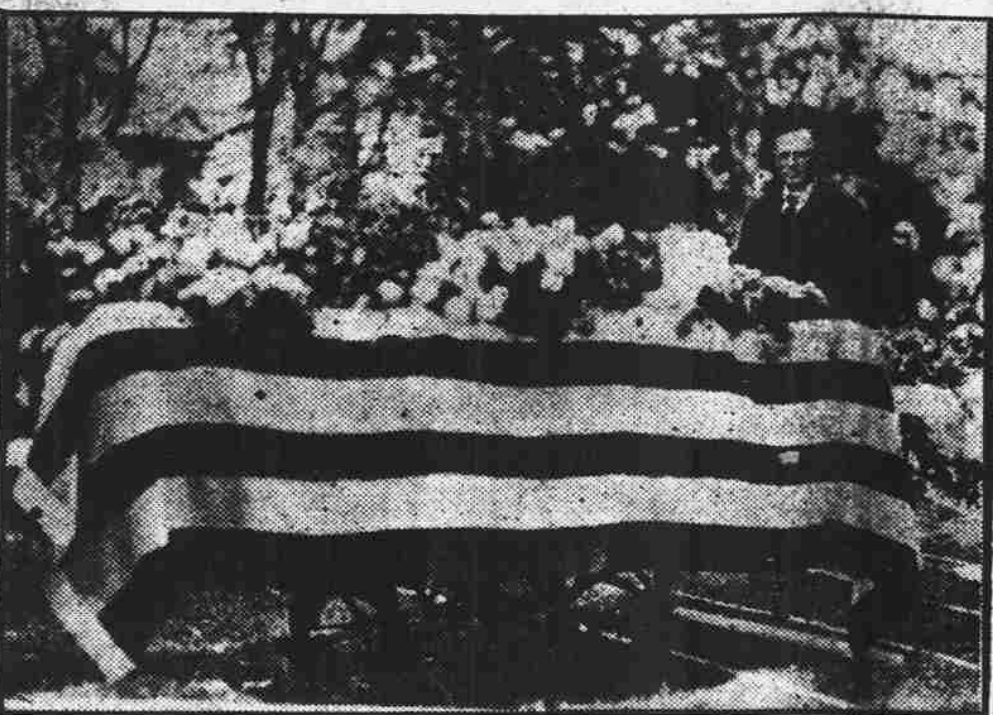
The scene is laid in Presberg, Hungary. The story of the opera is this: Thaddeus, an exile from Poland, is fleeing from Austrian troops, and to facilitate his escape he casts his lot with a band of gypsies, headed by Devilshoof. As the tribe is crossing the estate of the Governor of Presberg, Count Arneheim, Thaddeus is enabled to rescue the little daughter of the Count from a wild stag, and in his gratitude the Count invites the Gypsies to the hunting dinner. In the course of the festivities Thaddeus refuses to drink to the health of the Emperor and is about to be arrested when Devilshoof himself interposes and is himself confined in the castle, while Thaddeus is permitted to go. Devilshoof climbs from a window and steals the little Arline, making his escape good by chopping down the bridge across the ravine as the soldiers pursue him. Thus ends the first act.

In the second act twelve years have elapsed and we see the camp of the gypsies, among whom Arline has grown into a beautiful maiden of seventeen. Thaddeus, who has fallen in love with the young girl, now tells her of his affection, and in a melodious duet the couple plight their troth. The Gypsy Queen, herself enamored of Thaddeus, is forced to unite him to Arline, but secretly plans vengeance. Her opportunity soon comes, as she contrives to have Arline accused of stealing a medallion from the young nephew of Count Arneheim, who has come to the fair at Presberg, near where the gypsies are camped. Arline is arrested and taken before the Count, who in the course of the examination recognizes her as his daughter, from the scar made in her childhood by the wild stag. The second act ends here.

The third act shows Arline restored to her position, but secretly pining for her gypsy lover. Devilshoof contrives to get Thaddeus into the castle and he secures an interview with Arline. They are interrupted however by the Count's approach and Thaddeus hides in a closet as the guests arrive for a reception in honor of the newly found heiress.

The Queen, still bent on revenge, now enters and in a dramatic denunciation reveals the hiding place of Thaddeus. The Count asks for an explanation and Arline declares that she loves Thaddeus more than her father. The Count is enraged, is about to attack Thaddeus, when the young man reveals his history and proves himself to be

Thousands See Soldier Hero Buried Here



THOUSANDS witnessed the interment of the remains of Corp. Seth E. Perry on the courthouse lawn in Elizabeth City last Sunday. Corp. Perry was the lone Pasquotank soldier to meet death in action in the late world war. It was at Bellecourt, France, on Sept. 29, 1918. A company of Americans were about to be surprised by attacking Germans. They might be spared if word could be gotten to them. One runner who had undertaken to carry a message had already fallen under fire. Corp. Perry of Co. K, 119th Infantry, volunteered to take the message. While crossing an open field he also fell under the German fire. His heroic act received a citation from General Pershing and he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, which was presented to his mother, Mrs. Mary E. Perry, of Okisko. It was the mother's wish that the remains of her soldier boy be laid to rest on a public square in Elizabeth City and her request was granted. The funeral was conducted by Seth Edward Perry Post of the American Legion, scores of ex-service men of the army and navy appearing in uniform. The accompanying illustrations from photos made on the spot show the flag-draped casket and part of the vast throng assembled about the open grave.

ANOTHER CHURCH ST. REAL ESTATE DEAL

Fred Wineke Buys Desirable Lot Just To Provide Garages For Tenants of His Apartment-House.

Another Church St. real estate deal was closed this week when Fred W. Wineke purchased the lot adjoining the Wm. Baxter home property on West Church street. Mr. Wineke purposes to build six individual garages on this property for the use of six tenants of the apartment house which he will build on the corner of Church and Selden streets. Plans for the apartment house have been completed and construction will begin at an early date.

The lot purchased this week was the property of Howard Kramer. It has a frontage of 122 ft. on Church St. and is 100 feet deep. It sold for \$3,500. The building of the Wineke apartment on West Church St. will be a handsome addition to a street on which there is been notable building progress in recent months. New types of homes are appearing on this desirable street and it is already being called Elizabeth City's Picture Street. The homes of Sidney G. Etheridge, J. P. Thompson and Noah Burfoot, Jr., all recently completed are especially interesting cottage types and suggestive of Ladies' Home Journal architecture. The stucco finished home of S. S. Overman and the commodious new home of R. C. Abbott are likewise attractive recent additions. A sixth new home erected on this street within the year is that of Frank Harris, a two-story frame residence of pleasing design.

DARE COUNTY CONCERN MAKES A GO OF DRUMS

And Utilizes a Hitherto Plentiful and Unprofitable Fish.

A. W. Midgett, operator of the A. W. Midgett Packing Co. at Manteo, and the only factory in Dare County, comes to the front with his Golden Brand drumfish. Mr. Midgett has been experimenting on these fish for several years and has finally perfected a process which enables him to prepare a palatable food of meat which heretofore has been valued only when corned.

The drumfish play in great numbers around the Dare County inlets where they come in from the sea to feed upon crabs and smaller fish. They weigh from 30 to 60 pounds and are beautifully colored with red and brown. Their meat when raw, has the appearance of salmon, but due to great quantities of oil, it has never been successfully canned until Mr. Midgett devised a process which enabled him to remove the oil without spoiling the flavor of the meat. Instead, the flavor is better when canned than before.

Drumfish have never been sought for much, but this year the fishing season in many sections was so unprofitable that many fishermen have turned their attention to drumfishing. Two men may catch 40 to 100 of these big fish a day when the sea is smooth, and two or three days with the drumfish often prove more profitable than weeks of inside fishing.

Dr. W. S. Rankin was again elected secretary of the State Board of Health and State Health Officer, to succeed himself by the board in annual meeting at the sixty-eighth annual session of the medical society of North Carolina at Pinehurst this week.

J. S. Royster, sheriff of Vance county, and James Melvin, negro, were carried to a hospital in Henderson Tuesday, the sheriff with a bullet wound in his leg and the negro with a similar wound in his foot. No definite information as to what caused the shooting has been made public, but it is thought that the sheriff was out on a raid.

LITTLE PEP IN CITY ELECTION

Candidates For the Mayoralty Have Not Aroused The Interest of the City's Voters.

With the most important municipal election in its history less than two weeks off, Elizabeth City voters generally are showing an unprecedented apathy. There are only two candidates for the Mayoralty and neither of them has inspired any considerable interest, for the reason perhaps that neither of them has announced a platform or indicated just what he stands for.

This newspaper suggests that Dr. I. Fearing and Ira B. Parker, the two candidates for the mayoralty state their positions on important local issues and tell the voters of Elizabeth City why they think they are entitled to election. This newspaper offers space to both candidates to do this if they will be brief and to the point and place their statements in the hands of this newspaper early next week.

The registration books for the election on May 10 will be open until Saturday night. Hundreds of women who registered for the late presidential election and the recent school bond election are not on the city registration books and will find themselves disfranchised if they do not register before Saturday night. If you have not registered, do so.

More that this newspaper has to say about the forthcoming election will be said next week.

MAY PEAS BOOST A RETURN TO NORMALCY

\$5 to \$7 a Basket For Local Product, Highest Price Ever Recorded.

The highest price ever paid for May peas shipped from Elizabeth City was recorded this week when two car loads of peas shipped by R. C. Abbott for local growers brought \$5 to \$7 a basket on the New York market. The peas were shipped in refrigerator cars and there were about 425 baskets in each car.

Nine car loads of peas have been shipped from Elizabeth City this week, eight of these loaded by R. C. Abbott. A ninth car loaded by the Spence-Hollworth Co. brought \$3.25 to \$6.00 a basket. These prices fairly represent the market for the past week. But two cars of peas from Abbott hit the New York market Wednesday in the midst of a strong demand and a light market.

Peas shipped from Elizabeth City in refrigerator cars reach the New York and Philadelphia markets as fresh as they were when they left Elizabeth City all the day they were picked. Before this refrigerator car service was inaugurated peas often reached the markets in bad condition and many a shipment failed to yield a return sufficient to pay carrying charges.

The Pasquotank pea crop will put thousands of dollars in circulation in Elizabeth City and swell bank deposits during the next few weeks. The humble little pea is expected to play a big part in the restoration of that condition called normalcy, in this section.

CHURCH TO USE SPECIAL EDITION OF THIS PAPER

The Independent To Issue Sixteen-Page Supplement For First M. E. Church.

First Methodist Church South of this city will tell the story of their great church building achievement in a sixteen-page supplement of THE INDEPENDENT to be issued probably on Friday, May 13, 1921. It is the first time in the history of northeastern North Carolina that a church has undertaken such an impressive publicity measure. Two thousand copies of the supplement will be printed in addition to the regular edition of THE INDEPENDENT, making more than 5,000 copies all told.

Besides carrying a record of the greatest building achievement of any religious congregation of any denomination in eastern North Carolina, the supplement will reflect the commercial growth and development of Elizabeth City in many pages of local advertising.

The supplement will carry many attractive illustrations including a large frontispiece etching of the new church from an elaborate pen and ink sketch made especially for this purpose. The supplement will go to all subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT as a part of the regular edition of this newspaper and the extra two thousand copies will be mailed broadcast over the North Carolina Conference.

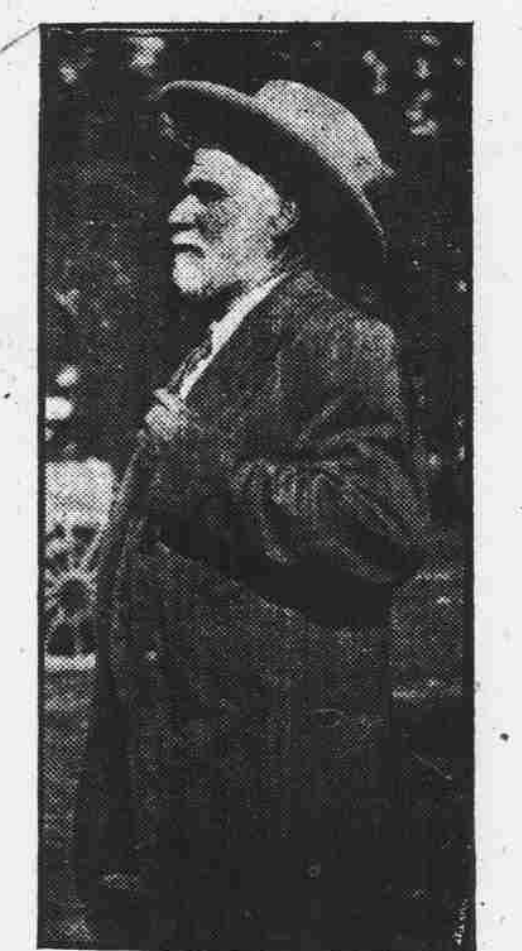
Besides being a monumental piece of publicity for First Methodist Church, the supplement will be an effective piece of advertising for Elizabeth City. Two things the world wants to know about a town: first, what about its schools; second, what about its religious advantages. This supplement will answer both questions. Realizing the publicity value of this special edition to the city as a whole, First Methodists are using part of their space to give publicity to the city and its schools.

STATE TO BUILD 2 ROADS IN PASQUOTANK COUNTY

Pasquotank To Be Reimbursed For Hard Surface Roads to Both Newland and Woodville.

THOMAS MEADS GOES COURAGEOUSLY TO GOD

Faith He Lived By Was The Faith He Held When Death Called Him Home.



Thomas Meads of Salem Township is dead. He died of a broken heart Monday, April 25, 1921, just six months after the death of his beloved wife. He was 76 years old on the 21st day of April.

Far and near Tom Meads was known as the infidel, because he did not believe in the accepted creeds and dogmas of his religious neighbors. His skepticism was the biggest fact in his life. He never kept his doubts to himself, but aired them among his neighbors wherever neighbors met and talked.

But his life ever confounded the religious enemies he made. His own life was pure. With all of his doubts and infidelity he was true to himself and kind to his neighbors. He was always kind, always helpful, ever charitable. He never lost his temper; he always smiled. The living Christ was in his heart even when what seemed blasphemy was upon his lips. He worked hard, loved much and went about doing good wherever fellow humans needed sympathy or more substantial help. He gave of all that he had and died a poor old man.

The funeral of Thomas Meads was held at the grave on the grounds of Salem Baptist Church Tuesday afternoon where his remains were interred beside those of his wife. There was no sermon, no singing of hymns, no flowers. It was his request. In his last hours he told his children that if any one had flowers for his grave to tell them in all kindness to send them to the living. He wanted no sermon and no prayers. Rev. W. E. Cole, pastor of Salem Baptist Church read a few verses from the burial service and W. O. Saunders, editor of THE INDEPENDENT made a short talk. Thomas Meads was friend of THE INDEPENDENT and his friendship never wavered. It was his wish that the editor should speak at his funeral. Saunders spoke from his heart what he knew about his friend. And after speaking he read to the funeral crowd from a volume of Robt. G. Ingersoll, the oration delivered by that great infidel at the grave of a child. "They who stand around this grave need have no fear. The larger and the nobler faith in all that is and is to be tells us that death, even at its worst, is only perfect rest. We know that thru the common wants of life—the needs and duties of each hour—their grief will lessen day by day, until at last this grave will be to them a place of rest and peace—almost of joy. There is for them this consolation: The dead do not suffer. If they live again, their lives will surely be as good as ours. We have no fear. We are all children of the same mother, and the same fate awaits us all. We, too, have our religion, and it is this: Help for the living—Hope for the Dead." Such was the religion of Thomas Meads of Salem.

Three children survive the deceased. They are Mrs. Elnora Owens and V. E. Meads of Salem and Stantor A. Meads, of Norfolk, Va.

WANT MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY OF CORP. PERRY

A movement to raise funds to build a monument to the memory of Corp. Seth E. Perry, Pasquotank hero of the world war, has been started in this city. There are those who think his heroic act and supreme sacrifice should be commemorated in some fitting way. There are others who want no monumental reminders of the world's biggest blunder. Just how the movement to erect such a monument will progress is doubtful.

"We expect to get formal agreement to-day from the State Highway Commission taking over Newland and Woodville Roads, both to be constructed by the county force, we advancing funds; reimbursement to be made by the State Highway Commission within four years."

The foregoing is the text of a telegram from A. B. Houtz, Chairman of the Pasquotank Highway Commission to this newspaper, the telegram dated at Raleigh, N. C. Thursday, April 28. Mr. Houtz has been in Raleigh since Tuesday, attending the meeting of the State Highway Commission.

His telegram to this newspaper indicates that the state will assume the cost of construction of two important roads in Pasquotank county, which means that Pasquotank will have more than \$200,000 from its original \$500,000 bond issue to apply to the construction of less important roads in this county.

Mr. Houtz went to Raleigh in the interest of the Newland road project primarily. It was his idea to get the Newland road matter settled before approaching the State Highway Commission on the subject of taking over the road from E. City to Woodville, which road is a link of the main highway connecting the capitals of Pasquotank and Perquimans and one of the most important roads entering this city.

But two other members of the Pasquotank Highway Commission went to Raleigh at the same time to try to get immediate consideration of the Woodville road as well. It looked for a time as if there would be a clash of interests and nothing would be accomplished, because there is not money enough available to build a sixteen-foot road from Elizabeth City to Newland and a sixteen-foot road from Elizabeth City to Woodville all at the same time.

But, from the best information available at this early hour a compromise was reached by the conflicting interests and it was agreed that both roads could be built from available funds if the width of nine feet was retained. And this it was agreed to do. This newspaper understands that the construction of the Newland Road (three miles of which has already been completed) will proceed as started with a nine-foot road and a nine-foot road will be built from Elizabeth City to Woodville.

The nine-foot roads will be so constructed that the state can widen them at some future time. In fact, the construction will be such that the nine feet of brick can be used as part of the base of a concrete road when it is determined that such a type of road is needed.

Not a dollar of the \$500,000 bond issue authorized for the building of state highways by the last General Assembly is available as yet, but that will not halt the construction of roads in Pasquotank. The Pasquotank Highway Commission will proceed with the construction of the prescribed roads and finance the construction. The State Highway Commission obligates to reimburse the county within four years.

Not only will the state pay for the construction of the Newland and Woodville roads, but the state will maintain them. And right there the county will be saved a considerable item, as building roads is one thing and keeping them in condition is another thing.

The state having taken over the roads in question means that the state must now face the problem of connecting the county seats of Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck. This problem involves the problem of bridging Pasquotank river, as the state can not connect these county seats without providing such a bridge. Just how soon the State Highway Commission will get to a consideration of the Camden and Currituck projects depends largely upon the interest and activity displayed by the peoples of those two counties. Pasquotank has gotten something by going after it. Camden and Currituck will get a look-in when they bestir themselves. Old Man Opportunity knocks at every old door but he doesn't bother himself to push 'em open.

CO-OPERATION IN BEAUFORT.

During the last year a farmers' exchange in Beaufort County, N. C., saved its members and the farmers in the community between \$75,000 and \$100,000, according to a report to the United States Department of Agriculture.

The organization, formed to aid potato growers, has shown high proficiency in co-operation. Last season its activities were confined to the purchasing of branded barrel covers and the selling of potatoes. Thirty-five thousand barrel covers were bought at a saving of \$700, and 126 carload lots of potatoes were sold with a saving of \$50,000.

Hathaway Says
If you wear glasses, have your eyes and glasses both examined from time to time, and go to the place where you can afford to pay a reasonable price for real professional work. Remember your eyes are your bread-winners. Take care of them.
You have your teeth examined twice a year. Why not your eyes? They are more important.
Dr. J. D. Hathaway
Optometrist
Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.